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PAGE 01 SAN SA 00125 072218Z
ACTION ARA-16
INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-12 SS-10 CIAE-00 E-01
NSC-05 NSAE-00 SY-05 HA-06 I-03 IRSE-00 PM-09
PA-02 PC-05 MCT-02 ICAE-00 SP-02 SPRS-02 085 [illegible]
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FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7326
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
DIA WASHDC
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PAN INTAFF
UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 0125
E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ES
SUBJECT: VIOLENCE WEEK IN REVIEW DECEMBER 26, 1981 - JANUARY 1, 1982.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY FS DATE 10/27/82
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TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE DOUBLE CLASSIFY ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ IN PART ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY: THERE WAS CONTINUED SCATTERED VIOLENCE ACROSS THIS COUNTRY DURING THE LAST WEEK OF 1981. BY OUR COUNT, HOWEVER, THE LEVEL OF KILLING DROPPED SIGNIFICANTLY. WHAT MILITARY ACTIVITY THERE WAS CONSISTED OF SMALL SCALE ENGAGEMENTS. GUERRILLAS CONTINUED TO ENGAGE IN WHAT THEY DO BEST -- BLOWING UP BRIDGES, STOREFRONTS, TELEPHONE INSTALLATIONS AND ELECTRIC TOWERS. END SUMMARY
2. VICTIMS: WE COUNTED A TOTAL OF 54 NON-COMBATANT VICTIMS (DEAD) OF APPARENTLY POLITICALLY MOTIVATED VIOLENCE DURING THE WEEK. AT LEAST NINE OTHER PEOPLE -- THREE GUERRILLAS AND SIX SOLDIERS -- WERE KILLED IN ACTION. THE
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DEPARTMENT OF SANTA ANA CONTINUES TO REPORT A DISPROPORTIONALLY HIGH LEVEL OF KILLING -- ALMOST HALF OF THIS WEEK'S NON-COMBATANT VICTIMS WERE DISCOVERED IN SANTA ANA. AMONG THOSE KILLED THERE WERE FIVE WHO DIED DECAPITATED. FOR SOME AS YET UNEXPLAINED REASON SANTA ANA LEADS THE NATION IN THAT PARTICULARLY FOUL FROM OF MURDER. IN ADDITION TO THE 63 DECEASED THERE WERE EIGHT PEOPLE WHO VANISHED UNACCOUNTABLY.
3. STATISTICS: THE BODIES OF THE 54 NON-COMBATANT VICTIMS WERE FOUND IN THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS:

SANTA ANA	25
SAN SALVADOR	13
CHALATENANGO	3
USULUTAN	4

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LA PAZ	3
SAN VICENTE	2
LA LIBERTAD	2
AHUACHAPAN	1
SAN MIGUEL	1
TOTAL	54

AGE BREAKDOWN:

A. AGE 17 AND UNDER	3
B. AGES 18-25	17
C. AGES 26-35	7
D. AGES 36-50	5
E. AGES 51 AND OVER	4
F. AGE UNKNOWN	17
TOTAL	54

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OCCUPATIONAL BREAKDOWN:

DRIVER	1
COFFEE PICKER	3
FARE COLLECTOR	1
PEASANT	3
BRICKLAYER	1
CUSTOMS POLICE OFFICER (OFF-DUTY)	1
REPAIRMAN	1
FARMER	2
WORKER	1
SALESMAN	1
UNKNOWN	39
:	
TOTAL	54

4. INCIDENTS: GUERRILLA VIOLENCE WAS UNREMARKABLE THIS WEEK. IN SAN SALVADOR THE GUERRILLAS MADE THEIR PRESENCE FELT BY BOMBING. AMONG THE TARGETS WERE THREE TELEPHONE INSTALLATIONS, ONE ELECTRIC TOWER AND ONE BANK.
GUERRILLAS WERE BOMBING ELSEWHEREN AS WELL. IN SANTA ANA DEPARTMENT A BRIDGE ON THE ROAD LINKING THE CITY OF SANTA ANA WITH METAPAN WAS DYNAMITED. BOMB EXPLOSIONS PUT CHALATENANGO IN THE DARK ON 12/26; GUERRILLAS STAGED AN ATTACK ON THE TOWN (REPELLED) DURING THE BALCKOUT. IN SAN VICENTE A RAIL LINE WASNSSPPED BY AN EXPLOSION. AND IN CUSCATLAN DEPARTMENT, IN THE AREA OF SUCHITOTO, ELECTRIC TOWERS WERE BOWED TO THE GROUND. THE GUERRILLAS WERE BURNING AS WELL AS BOMBING; ON 12/30 THEY TOOK TO BURNING TRUCKS (AT LEAST ONE OF THEM LOADED WITH SUGAR CANE) TRAVELLING ALONG THE HIGHWAYS OF SAN VICENTE AND LA PAZ DEPARTMENTS.
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